

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 10-093547

(43)Date of publication of application : 10.04.1998

(51)Int.Cl.

H04L 9/14

H04L 9/08

H04L 9/32

// H04L 12/28

(21)Application number : 08-243181

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(22)Date of filing : 13.09.1996

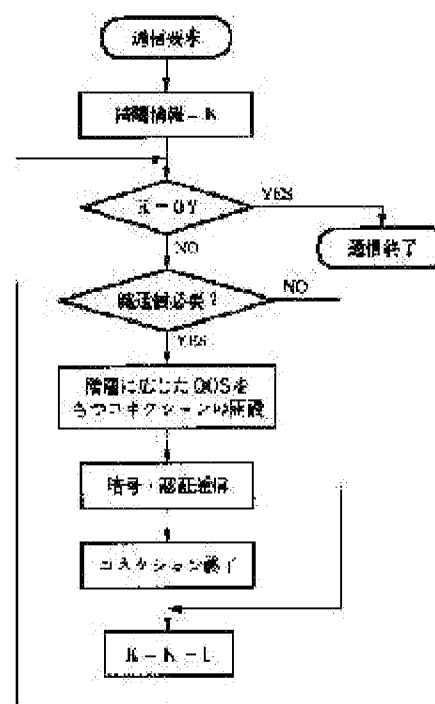
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## (54) COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, SYSTEM AND METHOD

### (57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To utilize a characteristic such as information and importance of service by providing a means that decides communication quality so that the quality of encryption and authentication communication relating to a higher layer is higher than the quality of encryption and authentication communication relating to a lower layer.

**SOLUTION:** This equipment is composed of a QOS (quality of service) setting means conducting a QOS request setting means being a connection open realize means having QOS depending on each layer and a QOS storage means that receives hierarchical information and stores corresponding QOS as a table. On the occurrence of a communication request, at first highest quality QOS is requested and set based on hierarchical information K. The connection is in use and encryption and authentication communication is conducted with a highest master key. After the encryption and authentication communication is finished, the connection is closed. Then the hierarchical information K is being decreased one by one and the connection depending on the layer is requested and set again and the operation is repeated and when K reaches 0, the communication is terminated.



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## LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]	10.12.1998
[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]	15.02.2002
[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]	
[Date of final disposal for application]	
[Patent number]	3630874
[Date of registration]	24.12.2004
[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]	2002-004673
[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]	18.03.2002
[Date of extinction of right]	